



## *Do Everything with Love* *(1 Corinthians 16:14)*

March Newsletter 2021

Return to school!

### Update from Mrs Christopher

Dear Parents,

It was around this time last year I was explaining how we had to close our school due to the Covid-19 crisis. We had a whole school assembly that morning when I spoke to the children about this remarkable event which would go down in history and that one day, they would tell their own children about it.

The past year has brought with it anxiety and concern along with, I hope, a better understanding of looking after our mental health and well-being. We now have a page dedicated to this on our website which has links to many supportive resources.

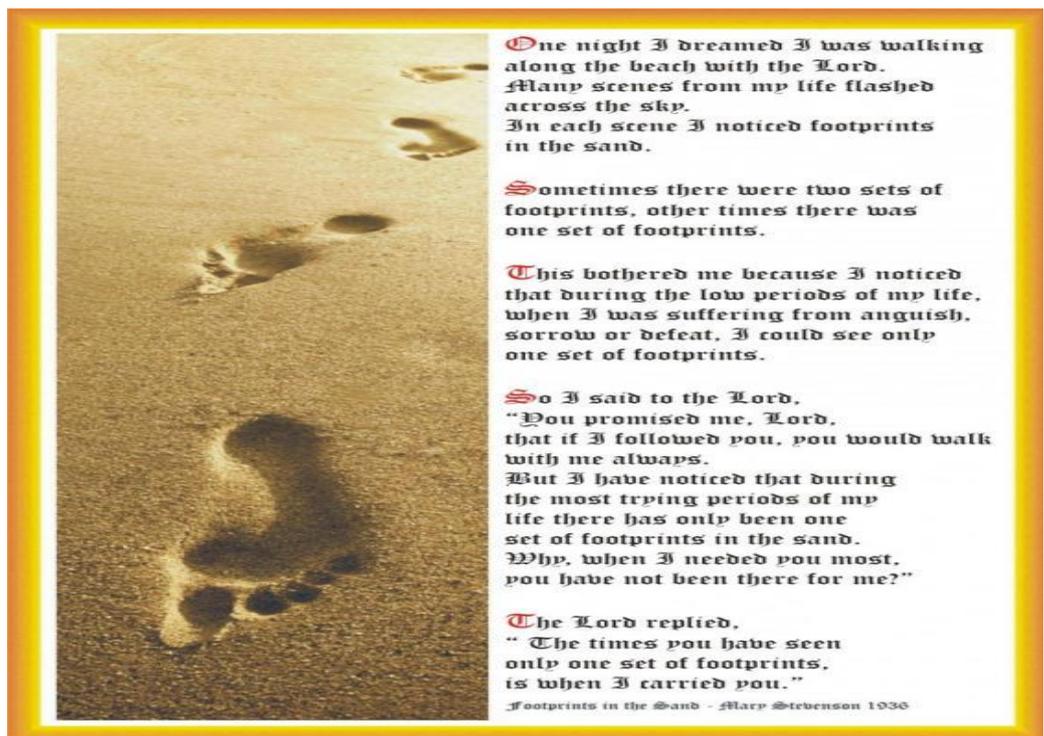
This time last year, I also shared 'The Footprints Prayer' below with you as reminder of God being here to support us. I can think of no better prayer to revisit again as we return to the new normal on our return to school. Please take a moment to read it and I hope it helps you to remember that God is with us all the time.

Next Monday, the children will return to school and they need to know that being nervous as well as excited are normal feelings to have- whichever balance of these feelings they have. **Most of all, we want them to know that they need not worry about returning to the school routine – we are there to listen, support and love and the most important thing for us is that they feel happy and safe at school. We will do our utmost to help every child in this return.**

We hope that everyone has a good return and that we can all support each other as always.

Best wishes,

Mrs Christopher



# Return to school Information

We are all getting excited as we prepare for the return to school of all pupils. We understand that some children may be excited about returning and some may feel anxious. Please tell them not to worry as we will do all we can to make sure the return is a positive experience for all the children. For the first day 'big return', we are planning to launch an exciting 'British Science week' using the theme 'Innovating for the Future'.

It has been a while since we've all been at school so I'm sure we could all do with a refresher of the times, routines and PE days etc. Breakfast club and after school club will resume from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> so please book your places via parentmail at least 48 hours before so that we can ensure there are enough staff for the amount of children.

## Parking at pick-ups and Drop off times

Please drive carefully when entering and leaving the square at pick up and drop off times. No one should park on double yellow lines. Drop off time is between 8:40 and 8:55 am and pick up times are listed below. Please keep this area as safe as possible for the children.

YR & Y2: Use the gate nearest the square. YR Pick up time 3pm Y2 Pick up time 3:05 pm

Y6 & Y5: Use the gate by the staff car park. Y5 & Y6 Pick up time 3:00 - 3:05 pm

Y1, 3 & 4: Use the usual main gate. Pick up times: Y1-3pm, Y3-3:05pm, Y4 -3:10 pm

**We ask all parents to wear masks at drop off and at pick up times (unless exempt). We request that only one parent does the drop off/ pick up so as to reduce numbers gathering at the same times and reduce possible infection transmission.**

## PE DAYS

Reception class: Thursdays

Year 1: Mondays & Fridays

Year 2: Tuesday & Thursdays

Year 3: Tuesdays & Wednesdays

Year 4: Tuesday & Thursdays

Year 5: Tuesdays & Wednesdays

Year 6: Thursday & Fridays

As we continue to live as normally as possible with this virus, we want to remind you of the measures we are putting in place to help keep everyone as safe as possible from COVID19 transmission during these continuing uncertain times and also to update you on the additional measures that have been put in place since January.

- All children to wear school uniform (summer or winter) including correct footwear– ties will be optional. Please let the class teacher know if you're having difficulties in providing the correct uniform, we will understand. Wellies **or old trainers** can be brought and kept in school for wearing on the muddy field.
- As before, on P.E. days children will need to come to school already dressed in their PE kit for the day – black or navy jogging bottoms & tops, white t –shirt, no patterned leggings. (No PE bags brought to school)
- All children will sanitise their hands on entering school and will wash their hands at regular intervals throughout the day.
- All children to bring their **own pencil cases** with writing and colouring stationery and these will be kept in school in their own trays. Children can also bring in a **book of their choice** for quiet reading.
- The staff car park will be out of use between 8:40 and 8:55 am so that Y5 & Y6 children are arriving in a safe zone.
- Desks, chairs, door handles and light switches are wiped down at break times.
- All children from Year 2 up work at desks facing forward.
- When staff are working within 2 meters of children, they wear a face visor in order to protect each other from virus transmission.
- All staff will wear masks when walking around the school communal areas.
- Younger children in Reception and Year 1 continue to use role-play areas and any items used are wiped or washed at the end of each day.
- All children have a designated class area at playtimes (rotated weekly).
- Years 2, 5 & 6 eat lunch in their classrooms; Reception class, Year 1, Year 3 & Year 4 eat in a designated space in the hall (separate times between KS1 & KS2 bubbles with cleaning in between).
- Toilets are cleaned midday and at the end of each day and each class use a designated toilet for their group, two at a time.
- **NEW:** Over the past few weeks, all of our staff are voluntarily participating in the rapid testing system (Lateral flow device tests) which means that we take a test twice a week at home. These tests are 80% accurate so provide another element of reassurance in helping to keep each other safe from virus transmission.

### **Other updates:**

**Self-Isolation:** Should classes need to self-isolate, all learning will go remote as before. Learning will be delivered via the Google classroom platform so please keep a note of your child's login details. Please note for **Reception class**, Mrs Hall will continue to communicate with parents via Tapestry and the school website class page as before.

**Testing for children:** Over the last two days, the Government have announced that all children (including Primary age) will be able to have access to testing kits to use with their parents **if you wish to**. More information is on the link below including how you can get hold of these test kits.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff#how-to-get-a-rapid-lateral-flow-test>

## LAPTOPS & Chrome books

If you have borrowed a school laptop, please return it at some stage next week via the school office. If self-isolation occurs again, you will be able to borrow a device again if needed.

## Forest School

**Year 5** will be having Forest school sessions on Fridays with Miss England. However, on the last week of term, this will change to Tuesday (30<sup>th</sup> March) as we are not here on that Friday. The children will need to wear own clothes (not best as they will get muddy) - comfortable, warm and waterproof clothing on those days please.

